

Message Text

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ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----083278 111650Z /72
O 111553Z APR 78
FM AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 8139
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM NIACT IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LONDON NIACT IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI NIACT IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO NIACT IMMEDIATE
INFO AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY GABORONE IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LAGOS IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA IMMEDIATE
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L LUSAKA 1262

EXDIS

CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

NAIROBI FOR AMBASSADOR LOW

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PDEV RH US UK TZ

SUBJ: RHODESIA: MEETING WITH PATRIOTIC FRONT

REF: LUSAKA 1258 - EDMUNDSON-CLINGERMANT TELCON APRIL 11

1. JOSHUA NKOMO INFORMED ME AT 1630 LOCAL THAT DESPITE
ANYTHING ANYONE MAY HAVE SAID HE WILL NOT BE IN
DAR ON APRIL 16 TO MEET WITH SECRETARY VANCE AND
OWEN. HE SAID HE WILL LEAVE LUSAKA TOMORROW MORNING
APRIL 12 FOR DAR BY THE REGULAR FLIGHT (DEPARTING AT 1040).
IN DAR HE WILL CONSULT WITH MUGABE ON THE 12TH AND 13TH ("I
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WILL SORT OUT WITH HIM THE CONFUSION OVER DATES FOR MEETING
WITH VANCE.").

HE SAID HE WOULD BE AVAILABLE FOR MEETINGS WITH SECRETARY
VANCE AND OWEN ON THE 14TH AND 15TH BUT UNDER NO RPT NO
CIRCUMSTANCES WOULD HE BE AVAILABLE ON THE 16TH. HE HAD TO BE
IN EUROPE ON THAT DATE.

2. PRIOR TO NKOMO GETTING ON THE LINE, MADZIMBAMUTO, VICE SECRETARY FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS, WITH CONSIDERABLE HEAT ACCUSED THE U.S. AND UK OF BAD FAITH BY NOT STICKING TO THE AGREEMENT ARRIVED AT WITH GRAHAM AND LOW IN MAPUTO ON LUSAKA AS THE SITE FOR MALTA II AND APRIL 14-15 AS THE DATES. HE THREATENED THAT IF WE STUCK TO THOSE DATES WE COULD WRITE THE WHOLE THING OFF. WHEN IT WAS POINTED OUT TO HIM THAT WE HAD PROVEN FLEXIBLE ON BOTH PLACE AD DATES AND THAT AN AGREEMENT REACHED IN MAPUTO WAS BASED ON INFORMATION WHICH TURNED OUT TO BE INCORRECT (MUGABE AND GOVERNMENT OF TANZANIA BEING AGREEABLE TO LUSAKA), HE BACKED OFF AND PUT NKOMO ON THE LINE. NKOMO WAS INSTANTLY CONCILIATORY BUT NO LESS ADAMANT THAT THE MEETING MUST TAKE PLACE IN DAR ON APRIL 14-15.

3. WE HAVE BEEN INFORMED BY BRITISH HIGH COMMISSION THAT NKOMO HAS TOLD THEM OF HIS INTENTIONS EXACTLY AS INDICATED ABOVE (HIGH COMMISSION IS PURCHASING TICKETS FOR NKOMO AND HIS PARTY FOR TOMORROW'S FLIGHT).

4. COMMENT: I FAIL TO UNDERSTAND THE LACK OF COMMUNICATIONS BETWEEN NKOMO AND STATE HOUSE (CHONA IN THIS INSTANCE). WHAT IS CERTAIN IS THAT THERE WILL BE SOME BRUISED FEELINGS AT STATE HOUSE OVER WHAT WILL BE REGARDED AS NKOMO'S RENEGING ON HIS AGREEMENT TO MEET IN DAR ON APRIL 15-16.

5. LONDON: PLEASE PASS TO FCO. HIGH COMMISSION HERE IS HAVING
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COMMUNICATIONS PROBLEMS.
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NNN

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